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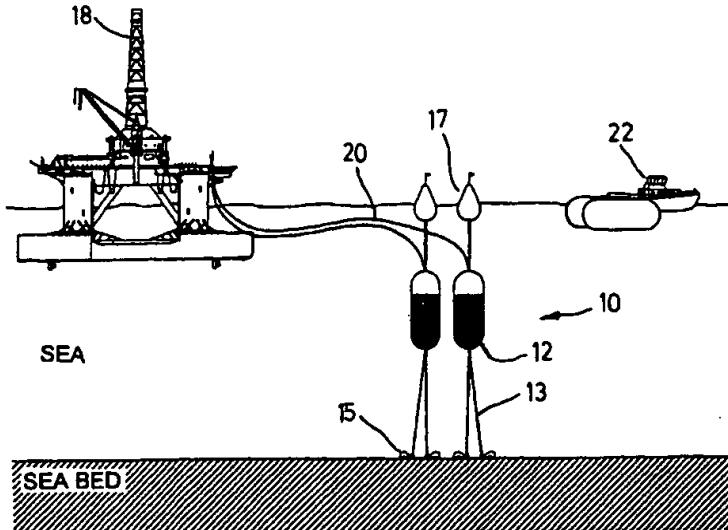
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## (54) Title: DRILLING WASTE HANDLING



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus for storage and transport of drilling waste is provided. A number of storage containers (12) are anchored to the sea bed by means of anchors (15) and cables (13). The location of the containers (12) is marked with buoys (17). The containers (12) are of adjustable buoyancy, and are arranged to remain below the surface of the sea. Drilling waste is macerated on board a drilling vessel (18), and pumped via conduits (20) into the containers (12). Once the containers (12) are full, a tug (22) collects the containers (12) and transports them to an onshore waste recycling facility, while empty tanks are returned to the drilling vessel (18) to be reused. The containers (12) may be arranged to agitate stored waste, either by means of an internal agitator, or by virtue of fins or paddles mounted on the containers (12), to rotate the containers in response to sea currents.

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